



Attorney Docket No. 15162/03920

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. Application: Masahiro KITAMURA, Yasuhiro MORIMOTO and Shinichi FUJII

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND IMAGE SENSING DEVICE

U.S. Serial No.: 09/941,816

Filed: August 29, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2614

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Assistant Director
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Director for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on

DECEMBER 12, 2001

Date of Deposit

JAMES W. WILLIAMS

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

James W. Williams

Signature

DECEMBER 12, 2001

Date of Signature

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the documents are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the items listed below are properly citable against the above-identified application.

The following documents are cited in the specification of the above-identified patent application:

- (1) The partial translation of the "Acquisition of an All-Focused Image by the Use of Multiple Differently Focused Images", by Kodama et al., Electronic Information Communication Association Newsletter, DII, Vol. J80-DII, No. 9, pp. 2298-2307, July 1997;
- (2) Honda et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,124,842, issued June 23, 1992; and
- (3) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 10-108057 (OLYMPUS OPTICAL CO LTD), published April 24, 1998.

Applicants consider the invention to be distinguishable over the above-cited documents.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of the first Office Action, no fee is required. If it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,

By: James W. Williams
James W. Williams
Registration No. 20,047
Attorney for Applicants

JWW/rb
SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD
717 North Harwood
Suite 3400
Dallas, Texas 75201-6507
(214) 981-3328 (direct)
(214) 981-3300 (main)

December 12, 2001